

North I-25 Express Lanes: Johnstown to Fort Collins

Project Details

Overview

Communities along the North I-25 corridor are expanding rapidly, contributing to major economic growth in Northern Colorado. The Colorado Department of Transportation will support this growth by delivering the North I-25 Express Lanes: Johnstown to Fort Collins project, which will:

- Increase highway capacity by adding an Express Lane in both directions
- Replace aging bridges and widen others
- Improve bus service performance and reduce each total trip time by 15 minutes by adding new bus slip ramps from I-25 to the new Park-n-Ride at Kendall Parkway
- Create new pedestrian and bicycle access under I-25 at Kendall Parkway
- Connect the Cache la Poudre River Regional Trail under I-25 and network to 100 miles of trails, and also serve as a wildlife corridor

Benefits

This project brings critically important benefits for the economy, environment and quality of life for Northern Coloradans. The project will:

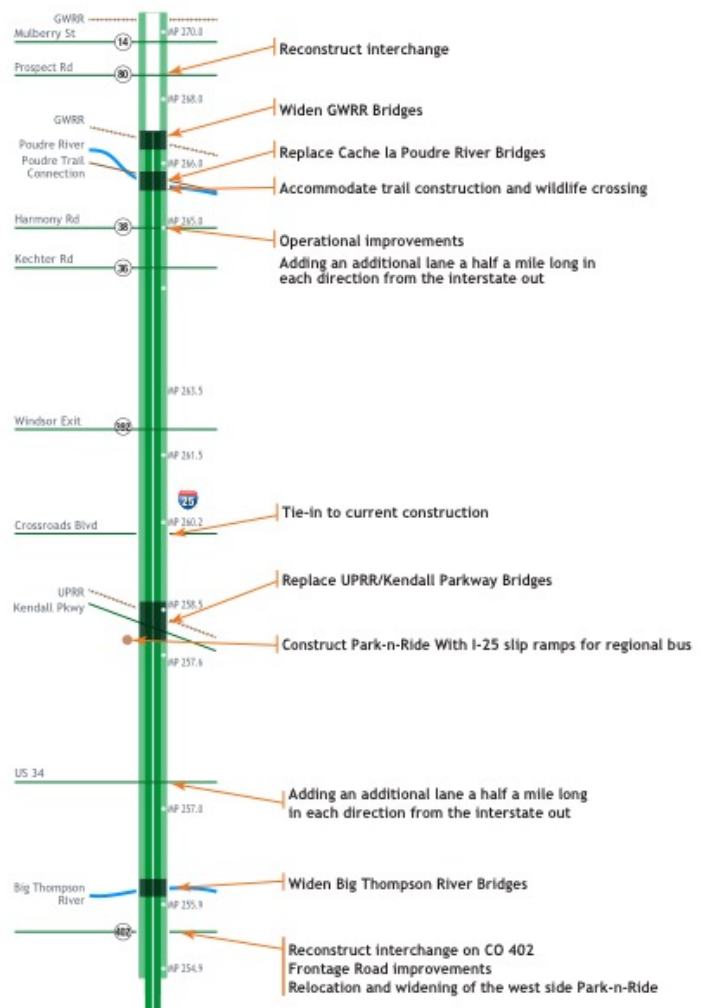
- Include much-needed safety improvements that will ultimately reduce crashes and fatalities
- Decrease travel time and increase trip reliability
- Reduce emissions and improve freight efficiency
- Employ congestion management and safety technology to improve travel experience
- Reconstruct aging and obsolete infrastructure
- Improve bicycle, pedestrian and transit connectivity

Timeline

Construction will begin in September of 2018, ending in 2022.

OVERALL IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE

- Rehabilitate or Reconstruct General Purpose Lanes
- Add Express Lanes
1) northbound and 1) southbound (widening to the middle)
- Construction of inside and outside shoulders in both directions



Funding

The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded CDOT and local partners a \$15 million TIGER grant, assisting them in funding this \$302 million expansion of North I-25. The project is supported by all of the communities and counties served by this corridor who have contributed significant funds for the original project scope, totaling more than \$25 million, and as much as \$28 million in other additional project scope improvements.

Using traditional funding, this stretch would not have happened until 2035. With local support and direction from state officials and representatives in D.C. as well as the TIGER grant, the project will be complete in at least 2021.

By delivering the project to the community earlier than outlined in the CDOT 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan, the benefits will be implemented 15 years or more years sooner and at a fraction of the cost.

Local Support and Partnership

This project has the full support of all of the communities and counties served by this corridor. Local partners include the City of Fort Collins, City of Loveland, Town of Berthoud, Town of Johnstown, Larimer County, Weld County, Town of Timnath, Town of Windsor and the Centerra Metropolitan District who have contributed significant funding totaling more than \$25 million. Additionally, Colorado Senators Michael Bennett and Cory Gardner, as well as three Colorado U.S. Representatives: Jared Polis, Ken Buck and Ed Perlmutter endorsed the TIGER grant application, which reflects the critical need of this project.

The Towns of Berthoud and Johnstown have contributed close to \$100 per man, woman, and child in their small town. Additionally the Centerra Metropolitan District, contributed \$6 million to ensure enhanced bus access and highway crossing, which serves a hospital and the largest commercial, residential, and retail metropolitan district in Northern Colorado. The benefits this project brings in the near term were all key contributing factors to this broad support.

History

According to the State Demography Office, the population of Larimer County—currently 316,000 residents—is expected to increase by 52 percent by 2040. Similarly, Weld County’s population of 268,400 residents is expected to increase by 111 percent by 2040. CDOT forecasts that this population growth will increase the number of vehicles making daily trips along the I-25 corridor by 60 percent in 2040. To provide the same, or better, quality of life and economic vitality for the future, improvements are needed on I-25.

CDOT is designing the North I-25 corridor in segments and phases according to the 2011 Final Environmental Impact Statement, which analyzed potential transportation solutions along the corridor between Fort Collins/Wellington and downtown Denver, as well as along US 85 and US 287. There are currently Express Lanes in place along I-25 between downtown Denver and 120th Avenue in Northglenn. CDOT is currently extending the Express Lanes that end at 120th Avenue to E-470/Northwest Parkway.



Express Lanes

What are Express Lanes?

Express Lanes provide travelers with more reliable, predictable travel times. Anyone can use Express Lanes. A solo driver in a passenger vehicle can use an Express Lane by paying a toll. A traveler can choose to travel for free with a motorcycle and as a carpooler with two passengers. The addition of an Express Lane on the I-25 corridor does not mean that existing general purpose lanes will be tolled. The existing general purpose lanes will continue to be free to use.

To use any Colorado Express Lanes, you will need an ExpressToll account and pass to avoid a higher license plate toll. The Switchable HOV Transponder is the only pass that allows you to choose the carpool option and use the lanes for free if the driver has two or more passengers. A traveler may also use the lane without cost via transit providers like Bustang. Motorists can get a pass by visiting expresstoll.com.

Benefits

- Reduce delay on Colorado's most seriously congested corridors
- Use toll pricing to manage congestion
- Maintain reliable travel times now and in the future
- Promote transit and carpooling

Toll Pricing

Express Lanes help to manage traffic congestion and toll rates will vary by time of day to provide reliable travel times. Toll rates are set to provide reliable travel times and are not set to maximize revenue. Toll rates have not yet been set. The toll rates and any rate changes will be approved by CDOT's High Performance Transportation Enterprise.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION—To learn more about the North I-25 Express Lanes: Johnstown to Fort Collins project, visit www.codot.gov/projects/north-i-25. To learn more about Express Lanes, visit www.codot.gov/programs/expresslanes. To get an Express Lanes pass, visit www.expresstoll.com.

You can also address questions or request a presentation from the project team via email or phone:
Email address: northi25expresslanes@gmail.com
Phone number: 720-593-1996

